

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION**

ORDER

This matter is before the Court on plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment that purports to have been filed pursuant to "Rule 55(a), Rule 55(b) of Missouri [sic] Rules of Civil Procedure." The motion must be denied without prejudice because an entry of default from the Clerk of the Court pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(a) is a prerequisite to and must precede the grant of a default judgment under Rule 55(b). See Johnson v. Dayton Elec. Mfg. Co., 140 F.3d 781,783 (8th Cir. 1998); 10 Wright, Miller and Kane, Federal Practice and Procedure: Civil 2d §§ 2682 at 406, 2683 at 413 (1983).

Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment is **DENIED** **without prejudice**. [Doc. 7]


CHARLES A. SHAW
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated this 7th day of December, 2015.